

AMENDMENTS

In the specification:

Please replace the priority claim paragraph at the beginning of page 1, immediately after the title, with the following amended priority claim:

This application is a divisional application of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/600,950, filed September 8, 2000, now abandoned, which is a 35 USC §371 national stage application of International patent application No. PCT/JP98/03311, filed on July 23, 1998, which claims priority to Japanese application Hei 10-11864, filed on January 23, 1998.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 43 line 23, with the following amended paragraph:

Purified rhMBP were gel-filtrated with Superosetm 6 HR10/30 medium (ø 10mmx 300mm length; Pharmacia) at flow rate of 0.5 ml/min using 20mM Tris-HCl (pH 8.0), 0.15 NaCl, 5 mM EDTA. 40 µg of rhMBP was applied on this column and was measured at 280nm absorbance.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 44, line 8, with the following amended paragraph:

Microtiter Plates were treated with 100 µl of coating buffer (15mM sodium carbonate, 35mM sodium hydrogen carbonate, 0.05% sodium azide, pH 9.6) containing mannan (10 µg/ml:SIGMA) at 4 °C overnight. After each treatment step, the plates were washed three times with TBSNTC solution (TBS, 0.05% sodium azide, 0.05% Tween 20 (Registered Trade Mark), 5 mM calcium chloride). After completing the coating of the plates, the plates were treated and blocked with BlockAcetm blocking solution (Dainippon Pharmaceutical) at room temperature for one hour.

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 50 and 51 with the following amended paragraph:

SDS-PAGE employed polyacrylamide gel having the concentration gradient of 4~20%, and HIV-1 and HBS were electrophoresed under reducing condition. After the electrophoresis, they were transferred to Immobilon-P^{sq} transfer membrane (Millipore) with Nova Blottm electrophoretic transfer unit (Pharmacia) by using semi-dry electroblot buffer kit (Owl Scientific). After such transfer, they were

blocked with BlockAcetm blocking solution (Dainippon Pharmaceutical) at room temperature for one hour. Then they were washed three times for 10 minutes with TBSTC (0.05% Tween 20 (Registered Trade Mark), 5mM CaCl₂, TBS) or TBSTE (0.05% Tween 20 (registered Trade Mark), 5mM EDTA, TBS) (control which inhibits calcium ion (Ca²⁺) dependent binding to carbohydrate recognition domain of rhMBP), and the solution diluted rhMBP to 1.0 µg/ml with TBSTC or TBSTE were reacted at room temperature for one hour.